BOROUGH OF LEOMINSTER

Herefordshire

Joint

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and of the

Public Health Inspector

for the year 1969

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(As at 31st December 1969)

*THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR, Councillor Mrs. E.R. BROWN

*THE DEPUTY MAYOR, Councillor R.B. BURKE

Aldermen:

F.H. DALE, J.P.

*N. DAVIS

D.R. JONES

*Mrs. P.P. PEATT, J.P.

Councillors:

*A.E. BENGRY

*A.T. BISHOP (Chairman of the Housing & Public Health Committee)

M.F. DUFFIELD

*Mrs. V.M. HARRIS

S.C. HARVEY

G.W. NORMAN

*G.G. POWELL

*F.W. WOODWARD

D.J. WRIGHT

*Members of the Housing & Public Health Committee

Town Clerk and Chief Financial Officer .. K. DOWNS

Borough Surveyor .. H. SCHOFIELD

Medical Officer of Health:

G.D.K. NEEDHAM, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Westfield Walk,

LEOMINSTER.

(Telephone: Leominster 2049)

Public Health Inspector:

R.L. PUGH, M.A.P.H.I.,

Grange Court,

LEOMINSTER.

(Telephone: Leominster 2257)

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health: C.A. PREECE

STATISTICS AND VITAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	8,728
Estimated mid-year home population	6,960
Average number of persons per acre	0.8
Number of inhabited houses	2,348
Average number of inhabited houses per acre ..	0.27
Average number of persons per house	3.0
Rateable value	£251,887
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£1,020

LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS

Live Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	49	47	96
Illegitimate	6	7	13
	55	54	109

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

Comparability factor: 1.07	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Leominster Borough (Crude)	15.7	14.1	16.2	16.5	18.4
" " (Adjusted)	16.8	15.0	17.3	17.7	19.7
England and Wales	16.3	16.9	17.2	17.7	18.1

Illegitimate Live Births

per cent of total live births:

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Leominster Borough	12.0	10.2	4.5	6.1	7.1
England and Wales	8.0	8.5	8.4	7.9	7.7

Still Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births:

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Leominster Borough	9.0	39.2	34.5	8.7	Nil
England and Wales	13.0	14.3	14.8	15.3	15.8

INFANT DEATH RATES

Early Neonatal Mortality

Deaths of Infants under 1 week old

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Leominster Borough	..	18.0
England and Wales	..	10.0

Neonatal Mortality

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks old

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births:

Leominster Borough	..	18.0
England and Wales	..	12.0

Perinatal Mortality

Still Births and Deaths of Infants under 1 week old

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Leominster Borough	..	27.0
England and Wales	..	23.0

Infant Mortality

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	2	2
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 related live births:

		1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Leominster Borough	(Total	28.0	10.2	18.0	26.3	7.9
	(Legitimate	21.0	11.4	18.7	28.0	8.5
	(Illegitimate	77.0	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
England & Wales	(Total	18.0	18.3	18.3	19.0	19.0

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Total number of Maternal Deaths .. Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births:

Leominster Borough .. Nil
England and Wales .. *

DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
Total number of deaths from all causes:	45	54	99

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

Comparability factor: 0.78	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Leominster Borough (Crude)	14.2	14.2	12.6	14.3	14.4
" " (Adjusted)	11.1	11.1	9.1	9.9	11.5
England and Wales	11.9	11.9	11.2	11.7	11.5

Cancer

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Malignant Disease:	10	6	16

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Leominster Borough	2.30	2.87	1.58	1.59	3.47
England and Wales	2.35	2.27	2.27	2.25	2.23

Cardio-Vascular Disease

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Cardio-Vascular Disease:	21	33	54

*figure not yet available

Cardio-Vascular Disease (Continued)

Cardio-Vascular Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Leominster Borough	7.76	8.32	7.50	7.65	7.96
England and Wales	6.01	6.06	5.77	5.97	5.95

Respiratory Disease (excluding Tuberculosis)

	Males	Females	Total
Total deaths from Respiratory Disease:	9	5	14

Respiratory Disease Death Rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population:

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Leominster Borough	2.01	1.00	1.59	2.16	1.74
England and Wales	1.77	1.75	1.37	1.60	1.41

CAUSES OF DEATH (all ages)

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	-	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	-	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	2	-	2
Other malignant neoplasms	5	1	6
Other disease of nervous system etc.	-	2	2
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	3	1	4
Hypertensive disease	2	1	3
Ischaemic heart disease	9	11	20
Other forms of heart disease	3	6	9
Cerebrovascular disease	3	7	10
Other diseases of circulatory system	1	5	6
Influenza	1	-	1
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Bronchitis and emphysema	6	4	10
Peptic ulcer	-	1	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	-	1	1
Cirrhosis of liver	-	2	2
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	1	1	2
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	2	3	5
All other external causes	-	2	2
	45	54	99

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR PREVIOUS YEARS

Borough of Leominster

Disease	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Whooping Cough	-	6	5	12	1
Measles	3	261	7	13	196
Scarlet Fever	-	3	1	9	-
+Infective Jaundice	4	2	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	2	138	45	1
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	1	-	-	1	3
Non-Pulmonary	-	1	-	-	1

North Herefordshire

Whooping Cough	4	18	47	37	5
Measles	35	526	314	271	525
Scarlet Fever	4	11	11	29	12
Acute Encephalitis:					
Infective	-	-	-	2	-
Post-Infectious	-	1	-	-	-
+Infective Jaundice	106	8	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	1	-	-
Dysentery	1	17	285	92	6
Food Poisoning	9	6	10	9	8
Tuberculosis:					
Pulmonary	4	1	3	4	8
Non-Pulmonary	2	3	2	3	3

+Notifiable from 15.6.68.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE DURING THE YEAR 1969

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Whooping Cough	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Measles	7	-	1	1	3	-	14	8	1	-	-	-	35
Scarlet Fever	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
Infective Jaundice	-	-	11	21	26	15	13	3	10	3	1	3	106
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	5	-	-	9
Tuberculosis:													
Pulmonary	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2

COMPARATIVE CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	North Herefordshire	England & Wales
Whooping Cough	0.11	0.10
Measles	0.95	2.91
Scarlet Fever	0.11	0.33
Infective Jaundice	2.86	0.48
Dysentery	0.03	0.45
Food Poisoning	0.24	0.15
Tuberculosis:		
Pulmonary	0.11	0.20
Non-Pulmonary	0.05	0.05

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Number on Register at 31st December, 1968.	23	10	2	3
New cases notified	1	-	-	-
Moved into district	-	-	-	1
Recovered	3	1	-	-
Died	1	-	-	-
Moved out of district	-	-	1	1
Number on Register at 31st December, 1969.	20	9	1	3

Year	New Notifications	Total cases on Register	Deaths	Recoveries
1965	4	59	-	1
1966	1	49	4	8
1967	-	46	-	3
1968	1	38	1	6
1969	1	33	1	4

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

No action needed to be taken under this section during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S SECTION OF REPORT

WATER

Piped Supplies (Public Water Mains)

The supply of piped water to that portion of the Council's area which is provided with water mains is through the Herefordshire Water Board.

(1) The piped water supply of the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory in quality and fully satisfactory in quantity.

(2) Bacteriological Examination

(a) Water after chlorination - 76 samples taken, 3 unsatisfactory, but after remedial action by the Water Board were satisfactory on resampling.

Number of samples taken from taps at consumers' premises 76

(b) Number of samples of raw water taken prior to chlorination .. .. .. Nil

(3) No plumbo-solvent action - hard water.

(4) Action taken in respect of any form of contamination - immediate re-sampling.

(5) Chemical examinations - Nil (Fluoride F. 0.26 p.p.m.)

(6) Approximate number of dwelling houses, flats, etc., supplied from public water mains:-

(a) Direct to houses, flats, etc. 2,380

(b) By means of standpipes 3

Of 559 occupied houses in the Out-Parish, about 485 houses are supplied with piped chlorinated water.

The approximate number of houses relying on spring, borehole, or well, is as follows:

Borough	..	2
Out-Parish	..	114

WATER (Continued)

Remarks

The following Out-Parish areas are not provided with mains piped water supplies:-

Brierley, Stagbatch, Aulden and Wintercott, Streiford and Hennor, Elms Green, Wharton, Ford Bridge and Marlbrook.

Water Samples taken and submitted for analysis

(a) Piped supplies (House taps or standpipes)	..	76
(b) Wells, boreholes, springs and chambers	..	3
(c) Open Air Swimming Bath	..	8

Note - (a) 73 samples satisfactory, 3 unsatisfactory.
(b) 2 samples satisfactory, 1 unsatisfactory.
(c) 8 samples satisfactory.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Borough's first sewage disposal works was brought into operation during the year 1963, and the second at Monkland Road to serve 112 dwellings at the Monkland Road Estate during 1969.

(1) The Council's area is only partly sewered, mainly for the following reason:-

Unsewered properties are economically incapable of being connected to a sewerage system.

(2) 87% of the occupied properties in the Council's area are drained to the Council's sewerage system.

(3) No sewage from other areas is received into the Council's sewers or direct into the Council's sewage disposal works.

(4) The effluent from the sewage dosposal works is discharged into the River Arrow. Storm water discharges to various water courses.

(5) No parts of the Council's area are drained to sewers or sewage disposal works of another authority, joint board or committee.

Borough Proper - Drainage of old premises to the sewer is in the main poor, consisting usually of unjointed pipes devoid of inspection chambers or ventilation shafts.

Out-Parish - Houses, where no sewer available, are drained to septic tanks or other place.

Approximate number of occupied houses drained to sewer:-

Borough Proper	..	1,890
Out-Parish	..	308

Number of occupied houses not drained to sewer:-

Borough Proper	..	20
Out-Parish	..	295

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL (Continued)

Cesspool Emptying

The Council do not undertake to empty cesspools.

Approximate number of cesspools in area:-

Borough Proper	..	17
Out-Parish	..	228

TENTS AND CARAVANS

Camping does not exist on a large scale. No sites licensed. In January some nuisance was occasioned by itinerant caravan dwellers occupying the Broad Street Car Park.

REFUSE COLLECTION, REMOVAL, DISPOSAL AND TREATMENT

(1) Collection - Borough Proper - Vehicular collection once per week.

Out-Parish - Vehicular collection weekly or fortnightly according to locality.

DUSTBINS renewed 58

(2) Disposal of Refuse .. .. .. Tipping.

(3) Treatment against rodents .. .. .. Periodic baiting.

HOUSING

Post-War Clearance Areas

The following houses resolved by the Local Authority as Clearance Areas are still standing:-

Area No.	Premises	No. of houses	Occupied	Unoccupied
52	11 and 13, North Road.	2	-	2
53	2, 4, 6, Strangward's Court.	3	-	3
56	51 and 53, Mill Street.	2	-	2
69	48, 48a, 50, 52, Bridge Street.	4	3	1
70	15 and 17, Mill Street.	2	1	1
74	4a, 6, 8, 8a, Bridge St.	4	-	4
75	122 and 124, South St.	2	1	1
77	20, 22, 24, Bridge St.	3	1	2
79	121, 123, Bargates.	2	-	2
80	5,9,11,13, Mill St.	4	2	2

HOUSING (Continued)

Post-War Clearance Areas (Continued)

Area No.	Premises	No. of houses	Occupied	Unoccupied
82	90, 92, 94, Bridge Street.	3	1	2
83	99, 101, 103, 105, 107, Bridge Street.	5	-	5
85	82,84,86, South St.	3	-	3
87	71, Etnam Street, 2, West's Court.	2	1	1
88	40,42,44, Dishley St.	3	-	3
90	24,26,28,30,32, Dishley Street.	5	-	5
91	72,74,76, Bridge St.	3	3	-
92	128,130,132, South St.	3	-	3
93	46, 48, 50, 52, 52a, Dishley Street.	5	-	5
	Sub-total	60	13	47

Pre-War Clearance Areas

The following 7 houses confirmed for clearance in the years 1938 and 1939 are still standing:-

Area No.	Premises	No. of houses	Occupied	Unoccupied
28	91,93, Bridge St. (1939)	2	2	-
36	30, Vicarage Street. (1938)	1	-	1
49	1/2, Rose Tree Cottages Ebnal (1939)	1	1	-
49	1,2, Bedford Cottages, Ebnal (1939)	2	1	1
33	3, Bridge Street (1939)	1	-	1
	Sub-total	7	4	3
TOTAL CLEARANCE AREA HOUSES STANDING AT 31st DECEMBER, 1969:		67	17	50

NOTE: The number of clearance area houses demolished during the years 1956 = 1969 inclusive is 186

Houses demolished during the year 1969 9

HOUSING (Continued)

Number of New Dwellings completed during the year:

(a) Total	132
(b) With State Assistance under Housing Acts:-	
(1) By Local Authority	112
(2) By other bodies or persons	-
(c) Without State Assistance:-	
(1) By other bodies or persons	
(i) Borough	5
(ii) Out-Parish	15

Statistics relating to Council Houses, Flats and Bungalows

The number of completed dwellings at 31st December, 1969, owned by the Council is as follows:-

Built pre 1939		208
Built from 1st April 1945 to 31st December 1969:	631	
Less Holland Road Pre-fabs. demolished/ closed in 1966:	20	611
Conversion of one premise to 6 flats (1958) ..		6
Old houses acquired and standing at 31st December 1969 (5 occupied, 3 void)		8
Total ..		833

Types and Numbers of Council Dwellings

(a) Permanent pre-fabricated Airey type ..	28
(b) Permanant pre-fabricated Cornish Unit ..	24
(c) Traditional brick	673

Bungalows

Traditional brick (aged persons 1 bedroom type)	25

Flats

Traditional brick	69

Conversions

Newman House to 6 flats	6
Old Houses Acquired	8
	833

HOUSING (Continued)

The number of Council dwellings constructed and completed for occupation during the year 1968 is 112.

Old Houses Acquired by the Council and still standing at 31st December, 1969:-

Library House	1
97, Etnam Street	1
1, Jenkins Buildings	1
Worcester Road 66b and 68 rear	2
68, Bridge Street	3
	8

Houses in Multiple Occupation

There are no registered common lodging houses in the Leominster district.

Houses in Multiple Occupation .. 10

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Table A. and C. - Registrations and General Inspections

Period Covered: 1st January 1969 to 31st December, 1969.

Class of Premises	Premises registered during the year	Total premises registered at end of year	Premises receiving general inspection during the year	Number of persons employed
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Offices	-	33	1	188
Retail Shops	1	82	1	329
Wholesale shops warehouses	-	6	1	38
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	15	3	73
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1	136	6	628

TOTAL MALES	251
TOTAL FEMALES	377

TABLE B.

Number of visits of all kinds to registered premises .. 68

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The Public Abattoir, Sewage Disposal Works, and Refuse Tip received periodic treatments.

Dwellinghouses, farms, business premises and local authority premises:-

Number treated against mice .. 1

Number treated against rats .. 66

For the first time wild mink were discovered in the area when 3 were killed in the River Arrow.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Number on Register (excluding Building Sites) .. 62

Number of Inspections .. 43

Cases in which defects were found .. 4

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Number and Type of Food Premises

Type of Premises	Number	Fitted to comply with: Regulation 16	Regulation 19
(a) GROCERS (including sale of fruit, fish, game, vegetables, and pre-packed ice-cream)	34	32	32
(b) SWEETS and SUGAR CONFECTIONERY (including sale of pre-packed ice-cream)	9	8	8
(c) RESTAURANTS and CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS (including fish and chip fryers, sale pf pre-packed ice-cream)	15	12	13
(d) LICENSED PREMISES (Hotels, Inns and Clubs)	26	26	26
(e) BAKERS and CONFECTIONERS	6	6	6
(f) BUTCHERS	8	8	8
(g) SCHOOL MEAL CANTEENS	4	4	4
(h) POULTERERS	1	1	1
TOTALS:	103	97	98

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD (Continued)

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960 (Continued)

Number of Food Premises, by Type
Registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955

(i) SALE OF PRE-PACKED ICE-CREAM

Grocers	17
Restaurants and Catering Establishments ..	14
Sweets and Sugar Confectionery (including Mobile)	9
	40

(j) PREPARATION OR MANUFACTURE OF SAUSAGES, POTTED, PRESSED, PICKLED OR PRESERVED FOOD.

Butchers	4
Bakers and Confectioners	2
Fish Fryers	2
	8

Ice-Cream

There are no ice-cream manufacturing premises in operation in the district. All retail premises have electric continuous freezers and retail pre-packed ice-cream only.

Food Premises

Apart from the Poultry Plucking Factory (mainly rough plucking of hens and capons) erected in 1961, there are no food processing factories in the area other than retail shops, bakehouses, restaurants and hotel kitchens.

Routine inspections are carried out from time to time under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960, and byelaws made under the Food and Drugs Act. Contraventions are followed up by communications and reports to the appropriate Committee when found necessary.

Poultry

As there is only one Poultry Processing Premise within the district the number of birds processed or rejected is not included in this general report, but the estimated figures are available. The types of birds processed are - turkeys, hens, broilers and capons (97% rough plucked, and 3% dressed) (estimated only).

Milk Supply

Brucella Abortus

All milk now retailed is treated milk.

Number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 (excluding farm dairies) 2

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD (Continued)

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

(1) There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the Council's area.

(2) Samples of liquid egg submitted to Alpha-Amylase test .. Nil

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATH

(1) Description:	Modern open air swimming bath (unheated).
(2) Water Supply:	Potable fresh water from Borough Main. Bath emptied and re-filled annually.
(3) Treatment:	By high pressure continuous filtration plant and Chemical treatment (Chlorine and Ammonia gases)
(4) Water Changes:	Water circulated continuously through filter while bath in use. Turnover period - 4 hours.
(5) Water Samples:	1 chemical and 8 bacteriological samples were taken from the bath, all of which were satisfactory.

ABATTOIR

During the year 1965, works of reconstruction, repair and improvement were effected at the Abattoir (built in 1877) to conform to the standards prescribed in the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958 Part II Construction, and Part III Equipment, and the standards prescribed in Part II of the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958.

Method of Meat Inspection

In accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963/66 in so far as is reasonably practicable.

Ante-mortem and Post-mortem Inspections

Inspection of all carcases is carried out daily.

Transport and Carrying of Meat

Vehicles of good standard are provided.

METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

(1) Condemned meat and other material from Abattoir - collection by private buyer.

(2) Other food - incineration or buried.

The undernoted foods were surrendered during the year:

20 tins canned meats.	1 turkey.
304 tins fruit or vegetables.	35 lb. Haricot beans.
756 pkts. frozen foods.	191 lb. Bacon joints.
18½ lb. cooked meats.	15 lb. sausages.

Approximate weight of diseased meat dealt with:

Condemned

Cattle ..	300 lb.
Sheep and Lambs ..	467 lb.
Pigs ..	149½ lb.
	916½ lb.

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the Borough. Arrangements at the Council's abattoir have been conducted by the Leominster Butcher's Abattoir Company, who ceased to slaughter in October this year.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	138	2	570	342
Number Inspected	138	2	570	342
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci				
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	7	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	35	-	102	30
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	25.36	-	19.12	8.77
Tuberculosis only				
Whole carcases condemned and carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis				
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-